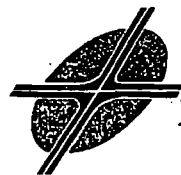


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ASH GROVE CEMENT WEST, INC.

Inter-Office Memorandum

Date October 10, 1985

To Ed Miller/Erik Voldbaek

From Ken Rone

Copies to Sid Brooks

Subject Waste Water Disposal

Another issue, which was created by the Seattle kiln shutdown and must be addressed, is the disposal of plant waste water. Presently, we are allowed only to discharge into the municipal sewer system the metered discharges from the plant's three sanitary sewer systems. All other waste water created by wash-downs, rainfall and bearing cooling is discharged into the settling pond from where it was drawn for slurry production. Our need for slurry water was generally in excess of our water generation.

Today our wash-down water is reduced to truck wash only, our bearing cooling water is reduced to only a few sources, but our rainfall runoff remains. In addition, Mr. Dash has requested installation of the continuous drive through truck washing station previously installed at the Auburn Terminal. Despite the driest year in recent record, our pond at times fills. Before overflowing its banks, it backs up in our drainage system and floods out some of the basements.

The ponds only discharge is then ground water seepage for which we hold a permit. We are allowed to discharge 214,100 gallon/day. Due to years of filter caking (and possibly lime scaling), I feel the pond's flow is only a fraction of the number.

Our options are these:

1. Re-dredge the pond, disposing of the spoils at a sanitary dumpsite, to re-establish a reasonable flow. There is no assurance this will be successful though test drillings and percolation tests may yield pertinent information. The pond was last dredged in 1982 with no obvious improvement in drainage rate.
2. a. Construct necessary piping to allow all bearing cooling water to join our present closed-loop cooling tower system.
b. Discharge to METRO of the wash down water and rain runoff. The discharge to METRO will require new drain fields, lift pumps and probably pretreatment.
3. Maintain status quo applying for an NPDES permit to allow us to pump down the pond (into the river) when circumstances dictate.

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MEMO TO: Ed Miller/Erik Voldbaek
SUBJECT: Waste Water Disposal
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It appears the most uncertain, but least expensive action would be Option 3. Option 1 would be inexpensive relative to Option 2, but it also is not guaranteed of success. Option 2 would assure compliance, but may be prohibitively costly. I would propose, however, pursuing these options in this order.

I would appreciate your opinions and suggestions of other options. This project should be given a fairly high priority because, like the clinker shed enclosure proposal (see memo of 10/4/85), we face an immediate risk of regulatory action.


KJR:1mb